

EVENING WRAPS RICH AND PICTURESQUE, BUT PRACTICAL



Three simple evening coats of brocade of satin and of velvet fur trimmed.

By ELEANOR HOYT BRAINERD.
THE evening gowns of the season may be subdued, but the evening wraps that cover them show no war-chastened spirit.

Possibly they are more generally practical than usual, but they are no less rich and picturesque—rather more so, as a matter of fact. Embroidered chiffons and laces were always the exceptions in winter evening coats, though one did occasionally see that sort of flimsiness superimposed upon a war foundation and fortified by fur, but the velvets and satins and brocades were always favored materials for the purpose, and this winter these gowns have taken their own way.

The fact that the velvets, satins and brocades have grown steadily in beauty and that the war handicap has not apparently marred this beauty accounts for the fact that evening wraps this season have even more than the usual air of elegance and richness.

To be sure, the wonderful brocades, of which some of the most beautiful models are built, are scarce, distressingly scarce. The manufacturers wring their hands over this scarcity, but since the gorgeous evening gown for which these sumptuous brocades were primarily designed is conspicuous by its absence from most of the fashionable wardrobes the cloakmakers can at least have by far the greater part of these materials for their own purposes.

And then so much can be done with velvet. Given the supplest and most

lustrous of velvets in exquisite color and all the fur one wants for trimming purpose, a designer who is an artist in the matter of line can evolve an evening wrap which for beauty and richness need fear no rivals. Added elaboration on such a coat savors of painting the lily, yet sometimes it does put the dot upon the "i" of a design.

Long Slim, Clinging Lines.

One of the most beautiful evening coats shown on the avenue bears witness to this point. It is of rose velvet, most beautiful shade and a superlatively beautiful fabric. Its lines are unusually long and slim and clinging, ample but with none of the voluminous fulness to which we have grown accustomed in fur coats, and at the bottom a deep shaped band of handsome skunk fur keeps the line narrow about the ankles.

There is a big skunk collar, too, and here and there are mere shadowy touches of embroidery, delicately run threads of glimmering metal and of a soft, deep blue hue that tones charmingly with the rose. Color, line and material are perfect, but the price—well, perfection always comes high in the way of another.

A coat of this type calls for height and at least comparative slenderness in the wearer. A little more fulness is kinder to the plump figure, but there is a golden mean, and the very ample shapely coats and wraps which we have been wearing and are still wearing have made the short, fat woman a laughing sight.

For the evening coat looseness about the top of the garment is a necessary thing. One must be able to slip such a coat on over a diaphanous, easily pumped corset without working havoc. But coats, like frocks, are clinging steadily if slowly, and even the evening coat will fall into line, both literally and figuratively speaking. It will not be tight, but it will certainly be clinging, and even the capes, which promise to have a continued vogue, will find a way of narrowing drastically toward the bottom, though, of course, they will of necessity give a width of silhouette above.

The Palm Beach models which are now being shown give convincing evidence that, whether by concerted action and at the instance of Government suggestion or by the convincing logic of plain common sense, the manufacturers are going to give us a

spring and summer season of straight, clinging lines and distinct scantiness. At the best houses this silhouette is being achieved without any sacrifice of grace or overfrankness in the matter of nature's modelling, and the models are as charming as simple but artistic models could well be. That manufacturers of less conscience or taste, catering to a crowd with the same lack, will carry the movement to extremes and that we shall see summer revelations more regrettable than patriotic is a foregone conclusion; but

meanwhile one can enjoy the attractive things that show the new modes at their best. The coats partake of the general tendency. They are loose but not full, long, loose, high collared, supple garments, narrowing slightly but not too much toward the bottom. But these are chiefly street coats and sport coats. Evening coats for summer are a thing apart and for Palm Beach are but little considered. One is likely to take along a winter evening coat for wear over thin Southern frocks; and

the very soft cloths are best for the capes and cape coats, and one finds picturesque and effective models of broadcloth and of the velvet finish woollens in tones of rose, blue, yellow, red, purple and white.

White Capes of Soft Serge. Big white capes are made in soft serge, also with smart collars and fastenings often with colorful block printed silk or chiffon linings. Cleverly cut capes of black satin and of midnight blue satin are smart enough to be pressed into service for ordinary evening wear in a warm climate, but all this is apropos of Palm Beach. Here in the North we have snow and sleet ahead of us and the winter is but just begun, and the interest of the home staying folk is still centering round warm clothes.

The cape coat or wrap is more often used for the winter than is the simple cape, and there are many ways of making these combination cape and coat models. The simplest are but big capes with armhole slits, trimmed in bufflike bands of fur.

Sometimes instead of mere bands, there are embryonic little sleeves, as in the case of the coat illustrated here, which has a collar, deep yoke and diminutive sleeves of moleskin.

There are more wool lined gloves for women than ever before, most of them of the gauntlet type and in mocha or cape. Probably these are in recognition of the fact that so many women are driving cars nowadays, and this may account also for the popularity of unlined gauntlet gloves in mocha and in the wash kid, white, beige, gray, &c.

The new bags, of course, are legion. Every woman will get a bag or two, ranging in size from the largest knitted bag to the smallest coin bag. For all around usefulness perhaps the best gift bag would be one of the large plain or striped velvet bags in black or brown or taupe, with severe mountings. It would carry the inevitable knitting, yet look well for street or costume.

Still the woollen sweater has become an almost indispensable item of a woman's wardrobe, and just now the slip on sweater, short or long, is

dear to the feminine heart. It may have sleeves or it may not. It may have a girdle or it may not, but it hugs the waist and hips closely and, worn over a sheer blouse or sometimes just with a soft white collar, it is a useful and attractive garment.

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Velvets, Satins and Brocades Have Their Own Way Among Fabrics, With Fur an Important Factor

If a lighter weight evening coat must be provided it is often a picturesque, informal sort of garment, a cape or mantle to be flung carelessly about one on the veranda, or when going to and from casinos or for a stroll in the night air.

The cape, being particularly in vogue at the moment, is more than ever popular for such use; and almost the only evening wraps we have seen among the Palm Beach things have been capes or cape coats. These are fashioned from all sorts of interesting materials.

One of the most picturesque and successful of the cape models frankly for evening wear in an interesting Palm Beach collection was of an exquisite brocade, softly brilliant, in many glowing but beautifully blended colors and in an exotic Oriental design. The shaping of the cape was extraordinary, clever, the fulness 'twixt clinging shoulder line and narrowing skirt line being gracefully disposed, and a soft draped collar of black satin fastening on one shoulder was exactly the right note.

Other capes of brocade less brilliant were shown and many had fur collars, though the body of the coat was of summerland weight, for we have accepted the French tradition of summer furs, and a fur collar thrown back from the throat is highly becoming.

Capes and loose capelike wraps of plain satins, strikingly lined and colored in fur or velvet or even the satin, are lovely and some of the big cloth capes and coats in soft bright color or in white will be available for informal evening wear.

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And by the way there is a new jersey cloth. Yes, still another, and this time a very attractive one. It is of fibre silk and wool, a little heavier than the regular wool jersey, very supple, beautifully lustrous and made in several attractive colorings. The

movable stocks and labors are so easily freshened and kept clean that they deserve their success.

The simplest of tailored blouse takes on an air of smartness and daintiness when a really good and immaculate stock and jabot is donned with it, but the stock must be carefully boned and fitted and fastened if it is to have the right air and comfort well with tailored costume. Too many women are wearing these stocks carelessly, content if they look well in front and dragging them together and pinning them in any untidy way in the back.

Flax lace is still greatly used in the

are offered in exquisite models and in both low necked and high necked effects. Perhaps the prettiest have rolling collars with deep front points, but there are many with flat collars, and among the separate collars and cuffs sets a majority of the collars are flat, though the rolling collar is more in demand.

A really fine set of collar and cuffs of net and lace or sheer linen and lace and embroidery is expensive, but any woman is sure to like it, provided becoming lines are chosen.

Of scarfs there is no end. They are of angora, of wool velvets, of silk, of velvet, of satin. Some have hats or caps to match, some bags, some muffs. Evening scarfs of flat tulle, exquisitely embroidered in jet, toiletries or jet and crystal are useful things, as are the scarfs of fine lace, black or cream.

Silk hosiery every woman loves, and the fine plain hose or the clocked hose are more likely to please than the fancier designs.

If one can afford to buy one of the beautiful big feather fans in black or in brilliant colors it will be a successful present for any woman who loves and wears modish things.

As for boudoir caps and robes and sacks, underwear, silk petticoats—but the story of these is too long.

Below the yoke, which runs down under the bust line, the wrap consists of soft straight folds of gray velvet in the same tone as the moleskin but many shades lighter.

This has been a very popular model and has been made, with slight variations, in many kinds of fur and fabric. In ermine and a white and silver brocade, lined throughout with creamy pink and satin, it is lovely, and in kolinsky and amber velvet it is good, but the gray model is peculiarly distinguished.

The tiny sleeves of this wrap are at the natural armhole position, but very frequently the arm openings in the evening wrap are posed much lower than this, as in the gold brocade trimmed in dark fur which appears among our sketches.

Two handsome materials may be combined in the modish evening cape. The upper part, let us say, of a brilliant metallic brocade, in gold or silver with color, while from the hip line down the wrap is of velvet in the color that appears in the brocade. This makes possible an economy in costly brocade without the entire elimination of the fascinating stuff, and the part of the garment bound to get the hardest wear is of the less expensive and perishable material, though, heaven knows, fine velvet is no cheap fabric.

A beautiful evening cape in this class had its upper section of gold and purple brocade, a silk of marvelous texture and design. The lower half was of the softest purple velvet. An enormous collar was of skunk and the lining was flesh pink satin.

Quilting Ornaments Satin.

Quilting sometimes ornaments the satin evening coats, with fur for bolder relief, and charming effects are secured in this way. One coat of silver gray satin was quilted from hem to hips and across the shoulders and was deeply collared and cuffed in gray wolf and lined with warm rose.

From evening wraps to sports clothes is a long leap, but it seems quite impossible to go on any quest to the manufacturers or the shops without coming back with new ideas about sports clothes.

Women are working hard—at least a large proportion of them are working hard—at war relief of one kind or another; but even the workers seldom solve more than a part of their time to the task. We are still doing out bit, not doing our utmost, and there will doubtless be a time and place for winter sports as usual.

Even in the city one skates, and many city folk have open country homes to which they can run away, while for those women who do not live in a city sports wear seems as necessary a part of a wardrobe as underwear or shoes.

New sweaters, sweater vests, sports coats, sports skirts, sports blouses, sports hats and scarfs are appearing

constantly, and there seems no end to the whims of the designers. The models which our artist has sketched illustrate up to date and somewhat extreme versions of the skating costume, and both have their interesting features.

One has a long loose sleeveless coat of dark blue wool velours and narrow skirt of the same material. The coat is worn over what looks like a long sweater of knitted khaki wool, though this knitted wool shows only between the coat fronts, in the sleeves, in the skirt and in the collar, and does not presumably extend under the entire coat.

Knitted collars and cuffs of a very looking sports suits of homespun or other cloth, and sometimes there will be a waistcoat, pockets, belt or other

Chemisette collars of net and lace

modish neckwear, but there are many special favor with Christmas buyers. In spite of woman's loyalty to the comfortable low collar, high necked effects for tailored costumes have been gaining favor steadily, and these re-

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CLOTHES ACCESSORIES ARE WELCOME CHRISTMAS GIFTS

CHRISTMAS presents? Why, yes. Perhaps most of our Christmas money is going to the boys "over there" or in camp or to the unfortunate everywhere, but the home folk aren't being altogether forgotten in the Christmas giving.

Stylishly say that the buying is less lavish and more discriminating than usual, that even the customers who have plenty of money seem to be selecting practical and useful gifts rather than extravagant trinkets. The things may perhaps be beautiful, may be costly, but they are likely to be things that will be used.

And there are so many things a woman can use and would be glad to have, especially in this day of straitened incomes and charities and high prices and necessary self-denial. Sweaters and sweater coats and their kin we have always with us and every woman loves them. The woollen garments do not rhyme with wool conserving. That's a fact, and no patriotic woman can have an array of woollen sweaters and a clear conscience at the same time, not even though she knits them herself. The soldiers need the knitting and the wool.

Still the woollen sweater has become an almost indispensable item of a woman's wardrobe, and just now the slip on sweater, short or long, is

dear to the feminine heart. It may have sleeves or it may not. It may have a girdle or it may not, but it hugs the waist and hips closely and, worn over a sheer blouse or sometimes just with a soft white collar, it is a useful and attractive garment.

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NEWS AND NOTES OF SOCIETY

Continued from Second Page.

League. The latter part of the season, Mrs. E. Van Slingerland, honorary president, Mrs. Harry Hastings, honorary vice-president, Mrs. Eugene J. Grant, first vice-president, Mrs. Caroline Foster Marsh, second vice-president, Mrs. Thomas Slack, third vice-president, Miss Edith Reiffert, fourth vice-president, Miss Anne H. Puck, recording secretary, Mrs. William Herr McKee, treasurer, Mrs. John H. Sheppard, corresponding secretary, Dr. A. Josephine Sherman, auditor, Mrs. Oliver Cromwell Field, historian, Mrs. Elmer Hastings, chairman of music, Mrs. Beatrice Gaudin, chairman of membership committee, Miss Henrietta Strauss, chairman of literature, Mrs. Clarence de Vaux-Royce, chairman of drama, Miss Alice Ives, and chairman of dancing, Miss Norman Drew.

The programme included a pantomime by Peter Morin and her company, vocal numbers by Mrs. Beatrice Gaudin, a piano solo by Alma McCoy Honig, acts from Shakespeare and the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner."

The December meeting of the Woman's Forum, Mrs. Helen Varick Boswell, president, will be held on Friday morning at the Hotel Biltmore. "Adjusting Industrial Workers in War Time" will be the topic for discussion, and will be presented by Charles H. Barnes, director of the State Public Employment Bureau. Mrs. Oliver Harriman is expected to speak of the dehydrating plant with which she is experimenting for the Government. A brief musical programme, including patriotic songs, will be given by Miss Miriam Ardini.

Clia, Mrs. James D. Shipman, president, held its annual presidents' day reception on Monday at the Hotel Astor. Among the club's guests were many prominent in the club world, and included Mrs. John Francis Yawer, president of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Simon Baruch, vice-president of the federation; Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden, president of the International Sunshine Society; Mrs. Clarence Burns, president of the Little Mothers' All Association; Mrs. Thomas Slack, president of the Legislative League; Mrs. Leonard L. Hill, president of the American Criterion Society; Mrs. F. J. Baker, president of the Kentucky Women; and Mrs. James Griswold Weniz, president of the Woman's Republican Club.

The musical programme included selections by the Biltmore Orchestra and vocal numbers by Miss Corinne Gould, Mrs. Edith Chapman Gould, John Young, George Hastings and J. Henry McKinley, with Frank J. Smith and Mrs. McKinley as the accompanists.

Members and friends of the Woman's Health Protective Association met on Wednesday afternoon at the home of the president, Mrs. Ralph Trautman, 424 Central Park West, to fill Christmas bags for soldiers. Over 200 bags were packed and will be sent to Yaphank and to the soldiers at Stuyvesant Duval training camp for aviators.

The Woman's Democratic Club of the city of New York, Mrs. Charles D. Hirst, president and Mrs. John Sherwin Cross, secretary, held their regular monthly business meeting on Friday afternoon at the Hotel Astor. The new chairman of the various committees are as follows: On membership, Mrs. H. J.

Hurst; ways and means, Mrs. George H. Childs; politics, Mrs. E. Smyser; recreation, Mrs. James Moran; entertainment, Mrs. E. B. Williams; civics, Miss Mary Donnelly; legislation, Mrs. Anna Holbert, and current events, Mrs. Alice Kraft.

For the benefit of the Christmas Joy Fund of the Knickerbocker Relief Club a card party and tea will be given by Mrs. George Westcott at her home, 128 West 150th street, on Wednesday afternoon. Tickets are \$1 and may be obtained from Mrs. George Hearn of 612 West 115th street, or any member of the club.

There was a large attendance at the reception and informal dance at the Delta Kappa Epsilon Club a week ago. There were present members from chapters in different parts of the country as well as many of the younger alumni at neighboring camps and naval stations, for whom a service smoker was held in the evening. The wives of the officers of the club served as patronesses and on the reception committee were Mrs. James C. Hurd, Mrs. Carlisle J. Gleason, Mrs. A. Barton Hepburn, Mrs. George A. Hurd, Mrs. Ogden Reid and Mrs. William G. Rockefeller.

The National Society of Ohio Women, Mrs. George M. Clyde, president, is doing its bit for the Ohio men in the Rainbow Division in France,